



News From

JACK DOYLE

MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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COUNTY PREPARES RESIDENTS FOR SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS

Monroe County Executive Jack Doyle and the American Red Cross today announced a partnership with Papa John's Pizza to educate residents on how to be prepared for severe weather conditions and to kick-off Weather Hazards Awareness Week.

"Severe weather in our area is rare, but in the event that it happens, residents need to know how to protect themselves," said Doyle. "We all know too well that in Monroe County dry roads can fast change to wet, slippery roads."

Doyle issued a joint proclamation, on behalf of the County and City of Rochester, to Papa Johns for their role in educating residents about weather preparedness techniques. All this week, the pizza shops will distribute weather preparedness tips on flyers to residents who order home-delivered pizzas. The tip sheets provide information on how to create a disaster supply kit and how to protect oneself and property during a flood or thunderstorm.

"Weather is a serious issue for our delivery drivers because the worse the weather, the more people stay at home and order in," said Dennis Gilman, local owner of Papa John's. "As a result, at times of inclement weather, our increased delivery business comes just at the time when delivering is more challenging. Hazardous road conditions, slippery porches, unshoveled sidewalks and driveways are safety issues for our delivery team."

The American Red Cross works closely with Monroe County to educate area residents about the importance of being prepared. When disaster strikes, there is not much time to respond. A weather hazard can quickly put lives in jeopardy, and being prepared may make all the difference for residents and their families. The Greater Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross regularly provides training through the Community Disaster Education Program and courses such as Community First Aid and Safety, which teach people how to recognize, react, and provide care during emergency situations.

"As we've seen recently, we can have 60 degree temperatures and sunny skies one day followed by sleet and ice the next. A weather hazard can turn into an emergency and even a disaster if we aren't prepared to react correctly. Simply

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being prepared is our first line of defense,” said Kyle Rodeman, Executive Director, Greater Rochester Chapter American Red Cross.”

The Monroe County Office of Emergency Preparedness plays a significant role in protecting residents during any type of natural disaster through well-planned strategies. Relief is provided in conjunction with other government departments and outside agencies.

To learn how to protect family and property from perilous weather, contact the Monroe County Office of Emergency Preparedness, the National Weather Service (www.nws.noaa.gov/om/svrawar/svrwx.htm), the Greater Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross (www.grc-arc.org) or your local library.

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